Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons

Report to Saskatchewan's Minister Responsible for Seniors 2002-03

April 2004

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ANNUAL REPORT: 2002-03

SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF OLDER PERSONS

REPORT TO THE MINISTER

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

April 2004

The Honourable John T. Nilson, Q.C.
Minister Responsible for Seniors
Legislative Building
REGINA SK S4S 0B3

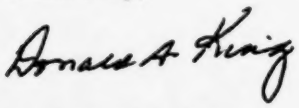
Dear Minister Nilson:

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons is pleased to present the 2002-03 Annual Report.

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons was established in 2000, with a mandate to make recommendations and advise the Minister Responsible for Seniors on important seniors issues. This is aided by the Committee's diverse group of committed members, each bringing strength to our purpose.

Mr. Minister, it has been an excellent experience working with everyone on the Committee.

Yours truly,



Dr. Donald A. King
Chairperson
Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons

INTRODUCTION

This is the third Annual Report of the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons (PACOP) since its beginning in 2000. The following report describes the activities and composition of the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons for 2002-03.

CREATING LINKAGES

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons remains committed to examining issues related to older persons in the Province of Saskatchewan. During the 2002-03 year, the Committee had the opportunity to create linkages and share information as listed below.

Adults in Vulnerable Circumstances

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons is committed to better understanding the issue of elder abuse. A presentation on legislation of interest to older persons by Ms Andrea Seale from Saskatchewan Justice helped gain understanding of the legislation available to adults in vulnerable situations.

Youth Criminal Justice System

A presentation made to the Committee by Dr. Joe Kluger regarding *The Youth Criminal Justice Act* helped Committee members better understand this piece of legislation and its implications for the Saskatchewan youth criminal justice system.

Housing

The Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons has identified housing as an issue of concern for older persons in their *Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons.* Chantile Shannon from the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation made an informative presentation on the graduated rent scale (GRS) for Senior Social Housing tenants.

Physically Active Saskatchewan

Mr. Art Lord of Saskatchewan Culture, Youth and Recreation made an informative presentation on *A Physically Active Saskatchewan – A Strategy to Get Saskatchewan People in Motion.* Mr. Lord shared with the Committee the recommendations in the strategy that will affect older persons.

Alcohol and Drug Use Among Older Persons

In 2002, as part of Canada's Drug Strategy, Health Canada published the *Best Practices: Treatment and Rehabilitation for Seniors with Substance Use Problems.* Greg Pauli, Program Manager, Calder Centre made a presentation to the Committee on the best practices.

ACTIVITIES IN 2002-03

Throughout 2002-03, the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons undertook work on a number of important issues related to older persons in Saskatchewan.

Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons

The Committee continued working towards the development and completion of the *Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons*, which identifies needs and concerns of Saskatchewan seniors and recommend ways to address them.

Second Annual Gerontology Institute

Three Committee members attended the Second Annual Gerontology Institute held by the Seniors' Education Centre, University of Regina.

Long-Term Care Fees

In May 2002, the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons met with the Premier and Minister Responsible for Seniors to discuss and advise on the proposed increase to long-term care fees. This provided the Committee with the opportunity to help ensure adequate health services for all older persons – a key goal of the *Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons.*

Seniors' Week

Following through with our commitment to recognizing contributions of older persons, the Committee undertook a mailout regarding Seniors' Week 2002. The mailout included a letter from the Committee, as well as a list of different activities that could be considered for Seniors' Week. The mailout was distributed to libraries, schools, post offices, health regions.

Alzheimer Strategy for Saskatchewan

In conjunction with the Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan, the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons began developing a strategy for Alzheimer's Disease.

PRIORITY ISSUES FOR 2003-04 (WORKPLAN)

Throughout 2002-03, the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons deliberated on a number of important issues related to older persons in Saskatchewan. Many of these activities were identified as priorities in last year's annual report, while others emerged as the Committee performed its role.

Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons

The Committee will finalize and work with government toward implementing the *Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons.*

Alzheimer Strategy for Saskatchewan

In conjunction with the Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan, the Committee will develop an Alzheimer Strategy for Saskatchewan.

Personal Care Homes

The Committee has identified a concern regarding the development, operation, and regular monitoring of personal care homes. The Committee will continue discussions with Saskatchewan Health on this issue.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Among Older Persons

The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Advisory Council and Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons are exploring ways of partnering to better address the issue of alcohol and drug abuse among older persons.

The Provincial Advisory Committee on Older Persons will seek to identify any new critical challenges facing Saskatchewan seniors.

APPENDIX A
COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP FOR 2002-03

Wes Ashwin

Mr. Ashwin was the Chairperson of the Provincial Advisory Committee, International Year of Older Persons (1999), and was also the Saskatchewan representative on the Canada Coordinating Committee – International Year of Older Persons (1999). He is an ordained United Church Minister and a retired employee of the Government of Saskatchewan.

Marg Beament

Mrs. Beament has been involved with the development of Northern Saskatchewan since 1973. She has worked with such organizations as Northern Native Women, Northern Municipal Council, NorSask Native Outreach, and the Lac La Ronge Indian Band Health Services as a Community Health Representative and Home Care Coordinator.

Frank Bellamy

A retired teacher and administrator (Superintendent of Education and Director of Curriculum), Dr. Bellamy is a past president of the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism and guardian for the Active Living Coalition of Older Adults (ALCOA) and the committee on diabetes and activity for seniors. He has volunteered with such groups as the Alzheimer Association of Saskatchewan, Regina Alzheimer Society, Selo Seniors Community Centre, City of Regina, the Regina Senior Citizens Centre Inc. and the Seniors' Education Centre, University of Regina.

Margaret Cline

Mrs. Cline came to Canada as a war bride and has been active in her community ever since. Currently a member of the Young-Zelma Legion and the Saskatchewan War Brides' Association, she has also served as a member of the Zelma United Church Women and nationally and provincially with the Saskatchewan Women's Institute, including a two-year term as president. She was also a member of the Saskatchewan Women's Agricultural Network (SWAN).

Helen "Bubs" Coleman

Mrs. Coleman was appointed as a member of the National Advisory Council on Aging in May 1999. She currently volunteers for the Saskatoon Council on Aging and Wanuskewin Heritage Park. She retired in 1994 as the Communications Coordinator for the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon.

Lucie de Montarnal

A retired teacher, Mrs. de Montarnal is a past president of the Golden Age Club. In addition to the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons, she currently sits on the Fédération des Aînés Fransaskois.

Patricia Hutchison

Dr. Hutchison is a member of the Seniors' Education Centre/Seniors' University Group where she attends classes and has served on the board and executive. Presently she serves on the Fifty Plus Advisory Committee of the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region Population and Public Health Services. During her professional career, she practised for a time as a pediatrician. She joined the Regina Health Department in 1962 and from 1983 until retirement in 1992, she was Medical Health Officer for Regina. She was a coroner for the Province of Saskatchewan in the mid-1990s.

Don King (Chair)

Dr. King is the retired Director of the Seniors' Education Centre, University Extension, University of Regina. A former Winnipeg resident, Dr. King has been an educator for 35 years in Regina at Luther College and the University of Regina. He has presented papers at national and international conferences on older adult issues and has been invited to participate in several face-to-face and computer mediated national forums.

Edward Leson

A retired teacher and past member of the Prince Albert Senior Citizens' Advisory Committee, Mr. Leson has also served as a Councillor with the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation and as President of the Prince Albert Teachers' Association.

Frank J. Mirasty

Mr. Mirasty is a former Chief of the Flying Dust First Nation, a position he held for eight years. Besides his involvement with the Meadow Lake Tribal Council in drafting the Education Act and as the Director of Self-Government, Mr. Mirasty is also known as a translator—he reads and writes in both Cree and English. He is also currently working with the Justice Committee in Alternative Justice and the Police Mangement Board.

Doreen Mowers

Mrs. Mowers was instrumental in the development of the Citizens All Association, where she worked as a councillor for 19 years. Aside from her work as a free-lance journalist, Ms Mowers has a Bachelor of Social Work and is trained as a psychiatric nurse. She also recently completed a four-year lay ministry course sponsored by the Anglican Church of Canada.

Jean Nahachewsky

Mrs. Nahachewsky is the past president of the Saskatoon Council on Aging. She assisted with the organization of "Spotlight on Seniors", an education and trade show and continues to volunteer with the Council. For many years she was also the Coordinator of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Resource Centre in Saskatoon.

Trevor Quinn

A retired pharmacist and former Director of the Formulary and Education Division for the Saskatchewan Prescription Drug Plan, Mr. Quinn has been active in a variety of heritage-related organizations such as the Regina Plains Museum and the Saskatchewan Pharmacy Museum Society. An active Kiwanian, his community activities include membership on the Finance Committee of the Regina Early Learning Centre and the editorial board of the Saskatchewan Senior Mechanism's publication, "Gray Matters."

APPENDIX B
SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Honorarium	$ 3,875	$ 3,875	$ 4,189
Other Costs (e.g., travel/ sustenance/meetings)	5,968	7,937	9,913
Total	**$ 9,843**	**$11,812**	**$14,102**